

a permanent and fair settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute. I hope that this year we will see peace and reconciliation flourish in the south Caucasus region between Armenia and all its neighbors. The United States welcomes the opportunity to support the courageous efforts by the Armenian people to overcome years of hardship and Soviet repression to create a prospering, democratic, and sovereign Republic of Armenia.

Let us remember the past and let its lessons guide us as we seek to build a better future. In the name of the American people, I extend my heartfelt best wishes to all Armenians as we observe this solemn day of remembrance.

**George W. Bush**

### **Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus**

*April 17, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period February 1 through March 31, 2001. The previous submission covered events during December 2000 and January 2001.

The United Nations continued in its efforts to sustain the proximity talks that started in December 1999. The United States remains committed to the United Nations effort to find a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 25.

### **Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on the National Emergency With Respect to Significant Narcotics Traffickers Centered in Colombia**

*April 17, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 25.

### **Remarks in New Orleans, Louisiana**

*April 25, 2001*

**The President.** Thank you all very much. Thank you all. It's an honor to be here. This ballpark kind of reminds me of home. And seeing my friend Will Clark, who used to play for the mighty Texas Rangers, it really reminded me of home. I want to thank you for being here, Will.

I also want to thank my friend David Vitter, the great Congressman from this district, for his introduction. I'm pleased to have been traveling today, as well, with the Congressman from northern Louisiana, John Cooksey. I appreciate John being here.

And you should appreciate them, as well, because when it came to trying to figure out what to do with the people's money, they stood strong for tax relief. At the airport, when I arrived, it was good to see my old friend and fellow Governor, the Governor of Louisiana, Michael Foster. And with Mike